

EJ # 380.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
FE 895.114 Narcotics/38

March 23, 1937

Attention: Customs Agency Service

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, and, referring to this Department's letter of July 18, 1935, and previous correspondence, encloses herewith, in duplicate, a copy of despatch No. 14, dated February 4, 1937, from the American Consul General at Seoul, Chosen, transmitting a translation of an item which appeared in the KEIJO NIPPO of February 2, 1937, in regard to increased shipments of opium from the Monopoly Bureau of the Government General of Chosen to the "Manchukuo" Monopoly Bureau.

Enclosure:

From Consulate General, Seoul,
No. 14, February 4, 1937, with
enclosure, in duplicate.

Amended ✓

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No. 14.

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AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,
Seoul, Chosen, February 4, 1937.

Subject: Increased Shipments of Opium
from Chosen to Manchuria.

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

Sir:-

With reference to Consul William R. Langdon's confidential despatch No. 64 of June 14, 1935, regarding the shipment of narcotics from Chosen to Manchuria, I have the honor to transmit herewith a translation from the February 2, 1937, issue of the KEIJO NIIPPON (Japanese language organ of the Government General of Chosen) regarding increased shipments of opium from the Monopoly Bureau of the Government General to the "Manchukuo" Monopoly Bureau.

As indicated in the enclosed press report, 41,336 pounds of opium have been exported to Manchuria each year, and this volume is to be increased at the request of the Manchurian authorities. To meet these increased export demands annual opium production in China will be increased from 57,870 pounds to 82,870 pounds. Of note in this connection is the fact that more than 71 per cent of the opium produced in this country is being shipped to Manchuria.

Respectfully yours,

O. Gaylord Marsh,
American Consul General.

Enclosure:

1. Translation of press report.

SH.4 / 70-3

Copy to the Embassy at Tokyo.

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Enclosure to despatch No. 14 of February 4, 1927, from the American Consulate General at Seoul, Chosen, entitled "Increased Shipments of Opium from Chosen to Manchuria".

SOURCE: KIMJO NIYTO (Japanese language organ of the Government General of Chosen), February 2, 1927.

FULL TRANSLATION

OPIMUM PRODUCTION TO BE INCREASED

Director Munemasa of the Monopoly Bureau of the Government General made the following statement to the press on the first instant upon his return from a business trip to Tokyo:

About 41,335 pounds of opium have been exported annually to Manchuria. At a conference

of departmental opium secretaries in Tokyo it was recently decided to increase this volume pursuant to demands from Manchuria as well as to demands for increased cultivation of poppies in North and South Kankyo provinces.

In February or March I plan to visit Manchuria to conclude a contract to this end.

Present compensation to poppy growers is about Yen 120 per kwan (8.267 pounds). If production is increased from 7,000 kwan (57,870 pounds) to 10,000 kwan (82,870 pounds), poppy growers will receive more than Yen 1,000,000.